

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 17-21, with the following amended paragraph:

The ~~thermistors~~ thermostats 16 and 17 are safety devices for forcibly shutting off power supply to the center heater 11 and side heaters 12 if the heat roller 10 is abnormally heated by, e.g., abnormal lightning of the center heater 11 and side heaters 12.

Please replace the paragraph on page 25, lines 5-8, with the following amended paragraph:

The temperature distribution of the heat roller ~~± 10~~ in the fixing device having the structure and control mechanism as described above will be explained below.